



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **LAVEEN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO THEFT OF FUNDS AT GILA RIVER CASINO**

PHOENIX – Josephine Bernice Shipley, 31, of Laveen, Ariz., pleaded guilty on March 27 to a felony violation of Theft by Officers or Employees of Gaming Establishments on Indian Lands, in U.S. District Court in Phoenix.

While employed as the Bingo Paymaster at the Vee Quiva Casino, Shipley created fake payout receipts on several occasions and stole \$2,250 from the casino. A condition of the plea agreement is that Shipley will make restitution to the casino in the amount of \$2,250.

A conviction for Theft by Officers or Employees of Gaming Establishments on Indian Lands carries a maximum penalty of 20 years, a \$1,000,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Fredrick J. Martone will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Sentencing is set before Judge Fredrick J. Martone on July 9, 2007.

The investigation in this case was conducted by Vee Quiva Casino Investigators and the Gila River Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Jennie Basile, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0785-PHX-FJM  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-092(Shipley)

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